

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 207442
ORIGIN SS-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /016 R

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DRAFTED BY: IO/UNA:JFTEFFT

APPROVED BY: S/S-O:RSNIDER

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE 9612

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 207442

EXDIS FROM UNA

FOLLOWING REPEAT TEL AVIV 10464, ACTION SECSTATE KUWAIT, INFO
CAIRO 15 AUG:

QUOTE C O N F I D E N T I A L TEL AVIV 10464

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PEPR, XF, IS, EG

SUBJECT: ISRAELI POSITION ON UNSC RESOLUTION 242

REF: (A) KUWAIT 4540; (B) STATE 205955; (C) TEL AVIV 5152;
(D) TEL AVIV 4214 (NOTAL)

1. AS REPORTED IN REF. C, AT THE CLOSE OF THE APRIL 16
CABINET SESSION, THE CABINET SECRETARY MADE THE FOLLOWING
ORAL STATEMENT: "IN THE CABINET MEETING TODAY THE FOREIGN
MINISTER SURVEYED THE INFORMATION GUIDELINES SENT TO
ISRAEL'S EMBASSIES ABROAD. A DEBATE WAS HELD ABOUT THEM.
THESE GUIDELINES SAY THAT RESOLUTION 242 WILL SERVE AS A
BASIS FOR NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN ISRAEL AND ALL THE NEIGHBORING
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COUNTRIES--EGYPT, JORDAN, SYRIA AND LEBANON. ISRAEL'S
POSITION IS THAT PEACE PLAN, WHICH INCLUDES ADMINISTRATIVE
AUTONOMY IN JUDEA, SAMARIA, AND GAZA, IS COMPATIBLE
WITH THE PRINCIPLES OF UN SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 242.
IF THE ARAB COUNTRIES RAISE COUNTER-PROPOSALS, WE WILL
DISCUSS THEM WITH A PRACTICANDR
MLKONDCH,#JUST AS WE EXPECT

THEM TO DO WITH REGARD TO OUR PROPOSALS. UN SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 242 IS BASED ON NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN COUNTRIES AND ON AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN COUNTRIES, INCLUDING AN AGREEMENT CONCERNING RECOGNIZED AND SAFE BORDERS."

2. IN SAME MESSAGE, IN PARA. 3, WE REPORTED AUTHORITATIVE BRIEFING GIVEN BY FOREIGN MINISTRY DIRECTOR-GENERAL EVRON TO FOREIGN DIPLOMATS SUMMARIZING A TALKING PAPER BEING SENT TO ALL GOI AMBASSADORS ABROAD FOR THEIR USE IN EXPLAINING THE ISRELI POSITION ON 242. INTER ALIA, EVRON NOTED POINT THAT "GOI AGREES THAT 242 IS BASIS FOR NEOGTIATIONS WITH ALL NEIGHBORING STATES, I.E., EGYPT, JORDAN, SYRIA AND LEBANON. ALL PRINCIPLES OF 242 APPLY WITH RESPECT TO ALL THESE STATES." REMAINDER OF BRIEFING PAPER ELABORATES ON GOI POSITION.

3. WE ALSO NOTE THAT ON MARCH 27 YADIN RELEASED THE MOST RECENT ISRAELI DRAFT PORPOSAL FOR A DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES. IT INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING LANGUAGE: "WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF SUCH A (PEACE) SETTLEMENT, AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH UN SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 338, THE TWO GOVERNMENTS (ISRAEL AND EGYPT) EXPRESS THEIR WILLINGNESS TO NEGOTIATE PEACE TREATIES IN FULFILLMENT OF ALL THE PRINCIPLES OF UN SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 242, WHICH WILL SERVE AS THE BASIS FOR NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN ISRAEL AND ALL THE NEIGHBORING STATES." (REF. D) THIS LANGUAGE
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HAS BEEN REPEATEDLY CITED BY GOI IN RECENT WEEKS AS REPRESENTING THE GOI POSITION ON 242.

4. COMMENT: THERE REMAINS A CERTAIN DEGREE OF AMBIGUITY, WHICH THE ISRAELIS HAVE TRIED TO RETAIN, IN THEIR POSITION ON 242. NONETHELESS, THEIR PUBLIC LANGUAGE DOES NOT CONTRADICT THE ANSWER TO THE FIRST QUESTION INCLUDED IN REF. B.
LEWIS UNQUOTE. CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, UNSC RESOLUTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE207442
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: IO/UNA:JFTEFFT
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780335-0719
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780858/aaaabwbk.tel
Line Count: 103
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 8cef8662-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 78 KUWAIT 4540, 78 STATE 205955, 78 TEL AVIV 5152, 78 TEL AVIV 4214
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags: ANOMALY
Review Date: 28 jun 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1720179
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ISRAELI POSITION ON UNSC RESOLUTION 242
TAGS: PEPR, XF, IS, EG
To: USUN NEW YORK
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/8cef8662-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014